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US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



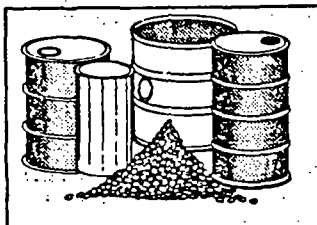
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THE TIMES

Thursday, June 2, 1983

DUMPING HAZARDOUS WASTES

N. Lake dump sites chosen



By PETRA LUKE
Times Staff Writer

CROWN POINT — Sites in Gary, East Chicago and Hammond are being considered for a "confined disposal facility" for polluted material which may be dredged from Indiana Harbor.

The sites and estimated costs are:

- **GARY:** On the north side of Industrial Highway, east of Cline Avenue, \$22,357,000;

- **EAST CHICAGO:** In Lake Michigan, opposite Jeorse Park, \$20,614,000;

- **HAMMOND:** On 141st Street, between Calumet Avenue and Indianapolis Boulevard, \$23,001,000; and in

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4 N. Lake hazardous dump sites chosen

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Lake Michigan, just east of the Hammond Filtration Plant, \$19,540,000.

Lt. Col. Christos A. Dovas of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers told the Lake County Solid Waste Disposal Committee on Wednesday where the project stands.

It's been almost a year since he convinced the committee the dredging needed to be done.

Lake County commissioners, who formed the solid waste disposal committee, agreed in July 1982 to act as local sponsor for the project.

If the harbor isn't dredged, it eventually will fill with silt and polluted materials and will have to be closed, Dovas has said.

The harbor contains varying levels of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), an industrial pollutant listed as a known carcinogen (cancer-causing) by the federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1977.

Dovas said a 1980 test of the harbor showed one area that had a hazardous level of PCBs. He said the corps will let a contract later this month for another test on the level of PCBs.

There are still several stumbling blocks which must be overcome before dredging begins.

One is funding.

If the project complies with a pollutant control plan and is granted a waiver by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the federal government would pay for all construction costs. Otherwise, the local sponsor would have to pay for 25 percent of the construction costs.

Dovas said that waiver can't be granted until the Hammond and East Chicago sanitary districts are in compliance with National Pollutant Discharge

Elimination System permits.

The solid waste disposal committee will try to meet later this month with representatives of the two sanitary districts to resolve the problem.

Costs to the local sponsor would be:

- \$473,000 with the waiver and \$5,944,000 without for the Gary site;
- \$58,000 with and \$5,197,000 without for the East Chicago site;
- \$647,000 with and \$6,236,000 without for the 141st Street site in Hammond;
- \$103,000 with and \$4,962,000 without for the site next to the filtration plant.